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IDENTIFIERS	Age Appropriateness; Appropriateness Measurement; New York Times; Parent Control; *Parent Resources; Parental Supervision; Video Criticism; Video Reference Services; *Video Tape Reviews

ABSTRACT

More parents than ever before are making a conscious decision to be more selective about what their children watch and the types of games they play. This guide lists recommended videos and provides parents with informative guidelines to enable them to make informed program choices. The first part of the guide presents brief reports from the field: (1) "TV for Girls" (Jan Benzel); (2) "Congress and TV: Living with the Law" (Lawrie Mifflin); (3) "Teletubbies" (Sarah Lyall); and (4) "Reinventing Children's Television Workshop" (Anita Gates). The remainder of the guide present the descriptions and ratings of the videos. Baseline criteria for inclusion in the guide include: (1) no gratuitous violence or sexual behavior; (2) no physical or verbal abuse; (3) no racial, gender, cultural, or religious bias; (4) no condescension toward children; and (5) no unsafe behavior. Each title is rated with one, two, or three stars. The accompanying review includes a summary of the program, running times, suggested retail prices, the best age fit according to the focus groups, and ordering information. Feedback from adult evaluators and child jurors explain why kids enjoyed it. Listings are organized into chapters devoted to specific age groups: (1) infant/toddler; (2) preschool; (3) elementary; (4) middle school; and (5) junior and senior high schools. Chapters are further subdivided into subject categories: (1) educational/instructional; (2) family; (3) literature and myth; (4) holiday; and (5) nature. The guide's appendix lists titles that suit special interests, including diversity and dealing with problems. (SD)

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